

Amendment Dated: May 8, 2006  
Serial No.: 10/800,902

### **REMARKS**

Reconsideration of this application and the rejection of claims 1, 3-10, 12-15, 17, and 19-21 is respectfully requested. Applicant has attempted to address every objection and ground for rejection in the Office Action mailed January 6, 2006 and believes the application is now in condition for allowance. Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly describe aspects of the present invention.

Claims 1, 3-10, 12-15, 17, and 19-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Particularly, the Examiner believes it is unclear whether the claimed “elastic member” would refer to the mount generally indicated by 60 and 100 in the present application, or only the web generally indicated by 64, 116, and 126.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. Applicant submits that the phrase “elastic member” itself may be broadly construed as a member that is elastic. However, this alone does not necessarily make the phrase unclear, as other features in the claims further define the position, operation, etc. of the claimed elastic member.

For example, in response to the Examiner’s clarification question, an example of an “elastic member” meeting features of independent claims 1, 9, 17, 19, and 20 is shown in FIG. 2 of the present application as part 60 (and shown as part 100 in FIG. 3). As recognized by the Examiner, the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 5 describes the preferred material for the mounts 60, 100 and the function of absorbing or dampening

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acceleration of the motor 40. However, the webs 64 and 126 (FIG. 6), alone, are not “in direct contact with the motor,” as further defined in claim 1, but instead an inner ring 62 directly contacts the motor. Thus, webs 64 and 126, alone, would not be an example of the claimed elastic member.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 3-10, 12-15, 17, and 19-21 meet the definiteness requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 4-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Moeller. Claims 7 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable based on Moeller. However, the Examiner has indicated that claim 3 would be allowable if the claim is rewritten in independent form (and if the pending 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph rejection is overcome). Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate all features of dependent claim 3 (now cancelled), and Applicant submits that amended claim 1 is now allowable. Currently-rejected claims 4-6 and 7-8 depend from amended claim 1, and Applicant thus submits that these claims are allowable as well. Applicant thus requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the pending 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 9, 10, 12-15, 17, 19, and 20 (and now apparently, amended claim 1 and dependent claims 4-8) would be allowable if the pending 35

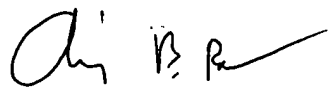
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U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph rejection is overcome. Applicant acknowledges and appreciates these statements. At this time, Applicant elects to keep the remaining claims in their present form pending the Examiner's reply to Applicant's response herein.

Accordingly, for at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that this Application, including all pending, elected claims, is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney should he find that any further issues exist related to patentability. Contact may alternatively be made with Lisa Soltis, the principal attorney of record, at (847) 724-7500. All correspondence should be directed to Ms. Soltis.

Respectfully submitted,

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